thereof on the animals living in those forests and the forest properties; and

(c) the details of measures taken to check such fires in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The forests in the Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh Hills were affected by forest fires during the months of May-June 1995. As per reports received from the state 931 Sq. Kms of forests were affected by fires in Up and 305 Sq. Kms in HP.

(b) and (c) The main reason for the extensive forest fires was the long dry spell and high temperatures. The people living in the adjoining areas also set fire to the dried pine needles in the chir forests to get fresh crop of grass for their cattles. Slash burning in the agricultural fields also is the cause of spread of fire into the forest areas. A two member committee has been constituted to enquire into the cause of the forest fire and the extent of damage to forest wealth. The Committee will also formulate a strategy to prevent occurrance of Such forest fires in future. The committee will submit its report within a month.

12.00 Noon

**The Deputy Chairman** *in the Chair*

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**(i) Vohra Committee Report**
**(ii) Notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs**

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Madam I lay on the table—

(1) A copy (in Hindi) of the Vohra Committee Report.

(2) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification G.S.R. No. 538 (E), dated the 6th July, 1995, publishing the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) (Amendment) Rules, 1995, under sub-section (3) of Section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982. [(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-7965/95 for (1) and (2)]

Madam, I would like to take the House into confidence about the Vohra Committee Report. There is a discrepancy...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hindi copy.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Both in Hindi and in English, there is a slight discrepancy, might be a typographical error. I have got the original with me, I have got the copies also with me. The discrepancy is, after paragraph 3.7, the next paragraph should be numbered as 4. Instead of 4, the paragraph has been marked as 6. So, kindly don't try to read any meaning into it. That is why I wanted to take the entire House into confidence, while placing it on the Table of the House, that this kind of a discrepancy has crept in. And if any hon. Members are interested, I am prepared to show them the original. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यप्रकाश मालवीय (उत्तर प्रदेश): इस पर चर्चा कब होगी? (व्यवधान)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) Madam, we are reliably told that the report is incomplete. It does not contain annexure which run into many pages, which contain many ... ..*(Interruptions)*..

प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): 100 पेज की रिपोर्ट 12 पेज की कैसे बन गई? (व्यवधान)

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय: कब चर्चा करेंगे? (व्यवधान)

**Notification of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Ports Wing)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Madam, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, a copy each (in

English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Surface Transport (Ports Wing):—

(i) G.S.R 417(E), dated the 23rd May, 1995, publishing the Visakhapatnam Port Trust (Licencing of Stevedores and Allied Matters) (1st Amendment) Regulations, 1994;

(ii) G.S.R No. 420(E), dated the 24th May, 1995, publishing the Visakhapatnam Port Trust Dock (Amendment) Regulations, 1994; and

(iii) G.S.R No. 522(E), dated the 27th June, 1995, publishing the Kandla Port Trust (Licensing of Stevedors) (Amendment) Regulations, 1994. (Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-7979/95)

**Notification order of the Chandigarh Administration (Finance Department) Chandigarh**

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 223 of the Punjab Panchayati Raj Act, 1994, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Chandigarh Administration (Finance Department), Chandigarh, Notification Order No. Nil, dated the 22nd April, 1995, extending the time limit for holding elections of Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad. (Placed in Library. *(See* No. LT- 7967/95)

**Statements showing the action taken by the Govt. on various assurances promises and undertakings given during the various sessions**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS: (SHRI MATANG SINH): I lay on the Table following statements (in English & Hindi) showing the action taken by the Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the sessions shown against each:—

(1) Statement No. XXXXI Hundred and Forty Ninth Session, 1989

(2) Statement No. XXIX Hundred and Fifty Fourth Session, 1990

(3) Statement No. XXXVII Hundred and Fifty Seventh Session, 1991

(4) Statement No. XXVI Hundred and Fifty Ninth Session, 1991

(5) Statement No. XXIV Hundred and Sixieth Session, 1991

(6) Statement No. XXIV Hundred and Sixty First Session, 1991

(7) Statement No. XXII Hundred and Sixty Second Session, 1992

(8) Statement No. XX Hundred and Sixty Fourth Session, 1992

(9) Statement No. XVII Hundred and Sixty Fifth Session, 1992

(10) Statement No. XVI Hundred and Sixty Sixth Session, 1992

(11) Statement No. XIV Hundred and Sixty Seventh Session, 1993

(12) Statement No. XII Hundred and Sixty Eighth Session, 1993

(13) Statement No. X Hundred and Sixty Ninth Session, 1993

(14) Statement No. IX Hundred and Seventieth Session, 1994

(15) Statement No. VI Hundred and Seventy First Session, 1994

(16) Statement No. IV Hundred and Seventy Second Session, 1994

(17) Statement No. III Hundred and Seventy Third Session, 1995

(Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 7946/95 to 7962/95 for (1) to (17)

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**MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA**

**(I) The Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Amendment Bill, 1995.**

**(II) The Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Amendment Bill, 1995.**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam, I have to report to the House the following